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City Unveils New Lifesaving Equipment

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(September 27, 2005- TROY)- Mayor Harry J Tutunjian and members of the City Council unveiled new automated compression machines and 12-lead defibrillators this morning at the Central Fire Station.

Recently the City of Troy purchased more than \$100,000 worth of emergency medical equipment geared towards improving performance in critical life saving situations. The automated compression machines simulate the movements needed for CPR more effectively than humans can, which in turn improves the effectiveness of the technique.

The six new 12-lead defibrillators will replace older versions of the machines, which only had 10-leads. Required by the Region Emergency Medical Organization, the 12-lead defibrillators provide a better diagnosis. With these units, paramedics can monitor a patient's vital signs, such as blood pressure, heart rate, and pulse oximeter and EKG readings, and transmit them electronically to emergency room physicians.

Mayor Tutunjian said Tuesday that the new equipment is a significant upgrade and it will not be long before a life is saved using it.

"This new equipment will strengthen what is already the best fire department in the Capital District," Tutunjian said. "Both the new 12-lead defibrillators and the automated compression machines are purchases that are tough to evaluate right away. People never know when the services of our paramedics will be needed, but with this new step, our residents can be assured that they will receive the best care possible."

City Councilman Bob Armet, the chair of the Public Safety Committee, said that the purchase of the new equipment should be seen as a sign that the City Council has made public safety a priority, and will continue to do so.

"This is another effort to show our residents that public safety is our number one priority," Armet said. "Our fire fighters and paramedics save lives on a daily basis with their services, and it is essential that we provide them with the best tools possible."